

No. 44 - Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region traverses the San Joaquin and Tulare Lake/Kern hydrologic regions and stretches from the City of Tracy in San Joaquin County at the north to Highway 41 and Kettleman City in Kings County to the south. On the east, the Region is generally bounded by the San Joaquin River and to the west by the Coast Range. The Westside-San Joaquin Region overlies the San Joaquin Valley and Los Banos Creek Valley groundwater basins. The San Joaquin, Fresno, Chowchilla, Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers flow through the Region. The Region boundary map that was originally submitted with the RAP materials overlapped with portions of the following IRWM Regions: San Francisco Bay, Pajaro River Watershed, and Merced. The Applicant acknowledges that these overlaps were incorrect and provided a revised map. The original map also excluded the state and federal wildlife reserves, creating voids and excluded areas within and adjacent to the Region.

The San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) is the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) for the Westside-San Joaquin Region and is responsible for the planning and implementation of the Region's adopted IRWM Plan. The SLDMWA was established in 1992 to represent the 29 agencies (federal water contractors) that are responsible for delivering federal water for agricultural, municipal, industrial, and environmental uses in the western San Joaquin Valley. Regional concerns include management of water quality and water supply reliability, and reuse and discharge of agricultural drain water. The RWMG intends to update its IRWM Plan in 2009. The outreach process that will be conducted for the 2009 Plan revision may cause the Region boundary to expand if other interests are revealed, such as opportunities to improve small community drinking water or wastewater management, flood control, or environmental management.

Interview Conclusions- Approved

The Westside-San Joaquin RWMG needs to undertake proposed outreach efforts, as part of their 2009 IRWM Plan update, to Disadvantaged Communities within this Region in order to be more inclusive.

Concerns with the Region boundary (original submittal) were discussed. The SLDMWA has provided a revised map that excludes areas which are not part of the Region, but are within member agency service areas, and includes the state and federal wildlife reserves that are served by the SLDMWA.